

Executive Registry

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17 NOV 1977

Letters Editor
Newsweek
444 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

Dear Sir:

The November 21st issue of NEWSWEEK contained an article concerning personnel cuts at the CIA. One of the quotes in that article has been misinterpreted by personnel in the CIA and I have issued the attached statement to put the matter in proper context for CIA employees. I hope that you will print that statement in your Letters Column so that all of your readers may share my true feelings.

Yours Sincerely,

/s/ Stansfield Turner

STANSFIELD TURNER

Attachment: a/s

A/DCI/PAO/HEH/kgf/17 November 1977

Distribution:

Orig - Addressee

1 - ER

1 - A/DCI/PAO (holdback)

1 - A/DCI/PAO (comeback)

1 - NEWSWEEK/Mel Elfin/Washington Bureau

Pub Affairs

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DCI NOTE

In NEWSWEEK of November 21st, an article concerning personnel cuts at the CIA quotes me as saying, "You really heard them crying, haven't you?" "'Often at personal risk!' I bet you there isn't five of them that had personal risk..."

I very much regret having said this. It was an unfortunate remark made in a spirited exchange with the NEWSWEEK reporter and was in no way intended to apply to all Agency employees. I was expressing my disappointment and annoyance only with those few who took their complaints to the news media.

I am mindful each day of the 35 stars displayed in the lobby of our headquarters in memory of 35 heroic members of the CIA who gave their lives in the service of their country. I am also aware that many others serve in unusual and difficult circumstances with little likelihood of ever receiving public recognition. I have great respect and admiration for all of you in the CIA who I know continue to serve your country so well.

I am sending a copy of this statement to the Editor of NEWSWEEK with a request that it be printed in the next issue.